STATE OF SO	UTH CAROLINA)	19/976		
(Caption of Case) IN RE: APPLICATION OF DPI TELECONNECT, LLC FOR CERTIFICATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER			DOC	BEFORE THE LIC SERVICE COMMI OF SOUTH CAROLIN COVER SHEET CKET IBER: 2008 - 31	J A
(Please type or print)				
Submitted by:	Lance J.M. Steinhar	t, P.C.	SC Bar	Number:	
Address:	1720 Windward Co	ncourse, Ste. 115	Feleph o	one: (770) 232-920	00
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			Other:		
NOTE: The cover s	heet and information con	tained herein neither replaces i	Email:	lsteinhart@telecomcounsel	
_	Relief demanded in per			be placed on Commission	•
INDUSTRY (C	Check one)	NATU	RE OF	ACTION (Check all tha	at apply)
☐ Electric		☐ Affidavit	L	etter	Request
☐ Electric/Gas		Agreement		1emorandum	Request for Certificatio
☐ Electric/Teleco	ommunications	Answer		Motion	Request for Investigation
☐ Electric/Water		Appellate Review	☐ C	Objection	Resale Agreement
☐ Electric/Water	Telecom.	Application	□ P	etition	Resale Amendment
☐ Electric/Water	/Sewer	Brief	□ P	etition for Reconsideration	Reservation Letter
Gas		Certificate	□ P	Petition for Rulemaking	Response
Railroad		Comments	P	etition for Rule to Show Cause	Response to Discovery
☐ Sewer		Complaint	□ P	Petition to Intervene	Return to Petition
	cations	Consent Order	P	Petition to Intervene Out of Time	Stipulation
☐ Transportation	ı	Discovery	⊠ F	Prefiled Testimony	Subpoena
☐ Water		Exhibit	□ F	Promotion	☐ Tariff
☐ Water/Sewer		Expedited Consideration	1 🔲 F	Proposed Order	Other:
Administrative	e Matter	Interconnection Agreement	t 🔲 F	Protest	get be
Other:		Interconnection Amendmen	nt 🔲 F	Publisher's Affidavit	OCO LUC
		Late-Filed Exhibit	F	Report Project	Tariff Other: Oche

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April 16, 2008

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Mr. Charles Terreni Chief Clerk of the Commission South Carolina Public Service Commission 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803) 896-5100

Re:

dPi Teleconnect, LLC

Docket No. 2008-31-C

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Pursuant to letter dated April 11, 2008 in the above-referenced docket, enclosed please find for filing an original and twenty-five (25) copies of the company's pre-filed testimony.

I have enclosed an extra copy of this letter to be date-stamped and returned to me in the self-addressed, postage prepaid envelope I have provided.

If you have any questions or if I may provide you with any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance M. Steinhart

Attorney for dPi Teleconnect, LLC

Scott Elliott, Esq. (w/enc)

Margaret M. Fox, Esq. (w/enc) McNair Law Firm, P.A. P.O. Box 11390 Columbia, SC 29211

Office of Regulatory Staff 1441 Main Street, Suite 300 Columbia, S.C. 29201

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2008-31-C

IN KE:		Application of del Teleconnect, LLC For Certification As an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier)	DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRIAN BOLLINGER
		I. <u>Introd</u>	uction	<u>1</u>
l.	Q:	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, YOUR POSITION WITH DPI		POSITION WITH DPI
2		TELECONNECT, LLC AND YOU	R BU	SINESS ADDRESS.
3	A:	My name is Brian Bollinger. My title	is Vic	e President of Legal Affairs of dPi
4		Teleconnect, LLC (hereinafter someti	mes re	eferred to as "dPi"). My business
5		address is 2997 LBJ Freeway, Suite 2	25, Da	allas, Texas 75234.
6	Q:	PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF DES	CRIF	TION OF YOUR BACKGROUND
7		AND EXPERIENCE.		
8	A:	My background and experience, as well as other key members of dPi's		other key members of dPi's
9		management team, is attached hereto as Exhibit A.		

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2	Q:	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?
3	A:	The purpose of my testimony is to demonstrate that dPi meets the state and federal
4		requirements for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC")
5		in the State of South Carolina in the designated areas of BellSouth/AT&T service
6		territory (the "Designated Service Area"). A copy of the List of Wire Centers is
7		attached hereto as Exhibit B.
8	Q:	DOES DPI CURRENTLY PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
9		SERVICE IN SOUTH CAROLINA?
10	A:	Yes. dPi was granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to
11		Provide Local Exchange Telecommunications Services within the State of South
12		Carolina Pursuant to Order No. 2000-0470 issued in Docket No. 98-640-C on
13		June 5, 2000. dPi is also a common carrier as that term is defined in 47 U.S.C.
14		§153(10), and dPi meets the requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1).

2	Q:	DOES DPI CURRENTLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUNDING FOR
3		UNIVERSAL SERVICE?
4	A:	Yes. Federal regulations require carriers such as dPi to contribute a portion of
5		their revenues to the funding of federal universal service.
6	Q:	IS THE COMPANY PRESENTLY ABLE TO DRAW FROM FEDERAL
7		UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUNDS FOR THE PROVISION OF THE
8		SUPPORTED SERVICES IN SOUTH CAROLINA?
9	A:	No. Until it is designated as an ETC for those areas it serves in South Carolina,
LO		dPi is not able to receive any federal universal service funds to support its
L1		provision of universal services to South Carolina consumers.
L2	Q:	BY OBTAINING ETC DESIGNATION, WILL DPI IMPROVE THE
13		QUALITY OF BASIC SERVICE PROVIDED TO SOUTH CAROLINA
13		QUALITY OF BASIC SERVICE PROVIDED TO SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO
14	A:	RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO
14 15	A:	RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO CONSUMERS SOONER?
14 15 16	A:	RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO CONSUMERS SOONER? Yes. As required, if dPi receives ETC designation, any universal service funding
14 15 16 17	A:	RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO CONSUMERS SOONER? Yes. As required, if dPi receives ETC designation, any universal service funding it receives will be used only to support the provision, upgrading and maintenance
14 15 16 17	A:	RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO CONSUMERS SOONER? Yes. As required, if dPi receives ETC designation, any universal service funding it receives will be used only to support the provision, upgrading and maintenance of dPi's pre-paid residential network where dPi is designated as an ETC in South
14 15 16 17 18	A:	RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO CONSUMERS SOONER? Yes. As required, if dPi receives ETC designation, any universal service funding it receives will be used only to support the provision, upgrading and maintenance of dPi's pre-paid residential network where dPi is designated as an ETC in South Carolina. As a result, dPi will be able to improve the quality of basic service by
14 15 16 17 18	A:	RESIDENTS AND INTRODUCE ADVANCED SERVICES TO CONSUMERS SOONER? Yes. As required, if dPi receives ETC designation, any universal service funding it receives will be used only to support the provision, upgrading and maintenance of dPi's pre-paid residential network where dPi is designated as an ETC in South Carolina. As a result, dPi will be able to improve the quality of basic service by increasing the availability of this unique service to customers who reside in areas

1 reduce the cost of unbundled network elements ("UNEs") obtained from the ILECs and used to provide service to its customers, designation of dPi as an ETC 2 will speed the testing and deployment of advanced services such as wireless 3 broadband to consumers in South Carolina. 4 Q: WILL DPI'S CUSTOMERS EXPERIENCE OTHER BENEFITS AS A 5 6 RESULT OF DPI'S DESIGNATION AS AN ETC? Yes. Since dPi is seeking only low income support, and Lifeline is designed to 7 A: 8 reduce the monthly cost of telecommunications services for eligible consumers, and is distributed on a per-customer basis and is directly reflected in the price that 9 10 the eligible customer pays, it is assured that all support received by the carrier is

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2	Q:	IS A COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIER LIKE DPI
3		ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT?
4	A:	Yes. Both the 1996 Telecommunications Act ("TA'96") and the FCC's rules
5		establish the directives for the Commission to follow in making an ETC
6		designation. Section 214(e) of TA'96 specifically provides that any common
7		carrier, including a competitive local exchange carrier such as dPi, may be
8		designated as an ETC for federal universal service support purposes, provided
9		that carrier meets the specific criteria set forth in Section 214(e)(1) of the Act,
10		which dPi does.
11	Q:	WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING ETC
12		DESIGNATION?
13	A:	The eligibility requirements were recently supplemented by the FCC. The initial
14		requirements established by §214(e)(1) of the Act are still in place, and state:
15		A common carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier under
16		paragraph (2) or (3) shall be eligible to receive universal service support in
17		accordance with section 254 and shall, throughout the service area for which the
18		designation is received:
19 20		(A) Offer the services that are supported by Federal universal service support
21		mechanisms under Section 254(c), either using its own facilities or a combination
22		of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services (including the services
23		offered by another eligible telecommunications carrier); and
		offered by another engine telecommunications carriery, and
24		

1		(B) Advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefore using
2		media of general distribution.
3		
4	Q:	IS DPI REQUESTING DESIGNATION IN THIS PROCEEDING FOR THE
5		STUDY AREA OF ANY RURAL LEC IN SOUTH CAROLINA?
6	A:	No. dPi's Petition requests designation only in the wire centers of
7		BellSouth/AT&T which have been classified as non-rural.
8	Q:	DOES DPI CURRENTLY HAVE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
9		WITH BELLSOUTH/AT&T?
10	A:	Yes.
11	Q:	IS IT YOUR UNDERSTANDING THAT DPI IS ENTITLED TO BE
12		DESIGNATED AS AN ETC IF IT DEMONSTRATES THAT IT IS
13		CAPABLE OF MEETING ALL OF THE OBLIGATIONS IMPOSED BY
14		SECTION 214(e) OF TA'96 AS WELL AS THE NEW REQUIREMENTS
15		ESTABLISHED BY THE FCC'S MARCH, 2005 ORDER?
16	A:	Yes.
17	Q:	THE FIRST CRITERION FOR ETC DESIGNATION UNDER SECTION
18		214(e)(1) IS COMMON CARRIER STATUS. IS DPI A COMMON
19		CARRIER?

1	A:	Yes. dPi is a "common carrier" for purposes of obtaining ETC designation under
2		47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1). A common carrier is generally defined in 47 U.S.C.
3		§153(10) as "any person engaged as a common carrier for-hire" in interstate or
4		foreign communications utilizing either wire or radio technology, except for radio
5		broadcasters.
6	Q:	THE SECOND REQUIREMENT IS THAT DPI OFFER THE
7		"SUPPORTED SERVICES." WHAT ARE THE SUPPORTED SERVICES
8		THAT MUST BE OFFERED?
9	A:	The FCC has identified (at 47 C.F.R. §54.101(a)) the following services and
10		functionalities as the core services to be offered by an ETC and supported by
11		federal universal service support mechanisms:
12		1. voice-grade access to the public switched network;
13		2. local usage;
14		3. dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent;
15		4. single-party service or its functional equivalent;
16		5. access to emergency services;
17		6. access to operator services;
18		7. access to interexchange services;
19		8. access to directory assistance;
20		9. toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

1	Q:	CAN DPI CURRENTLY PROVIDE THE SUPPORTED SERVICES SET
2		FORTH ABOVE USING ITS NETWORK THAT IS IN PLACE TODAY?
3	A:	Yes. dPi's present network can provide all of the supported services to consumers
4		in South Carolina. dPi recognizes its obligation to offer these services including
5		the "toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers" service that is linked to
6		the federal "Lifeline" program and targeted at meeting the needs of low-income
7		consumers. dPi, however, cannot participate in the federal Lifeline program until
8		it receives its ETC designation. Once dPi receives ETC designation it will
9		provide toll limitation as required by the FCC's rules.
10	Q:	COULD YOU EXPLAIN EACH OF THE SUPPORTED SERVICES AND
11		HOW DPI PROVIDES, OR WILL PROVIDE THESE SERVICES?
12	A:	Yes. dPi presently provides or plans to provide each of the supported services
13		identified by the FCC in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a) as follows:
14		
15		a. Voice-grade access to the public switched telephone network. The
16		FCC has concluded that voice grade service means the ability to make and
17		receive phone calls, within a specified bandwidth and frequency range.
18		DPi meets this requirement by providing voice-grade access to the public
19		switched telephone network. Through its interconnection and commercial
20		agreements, all customers of DPi are able to make and receive calls on the
21		public switched telephone network within the specified bandwidth.
22		b. Local usage. ETCs must include local usage beyond providing
23		simple access to the public switched network as a part of a universal

1	service offering. DPi includes specified quantities of usage in its rate
2	plans and thereby complies with the requirement. It is important to note,
3	that currently, there is no specific rule that requires an ETC to include any
4	particular amount of local usage, although all of dPi' service offerings
5	include unlimited local calling.
6	c. Dual-tone, multi-frequency ("DTMF") signaling or its functional
7	equivalent. DTMF, more commonly known as touch-tone, is a method of
8	signaling that facilitates the transport of call set-up and detail information.
9	Through its interconnection and commercial agreements, DPi provides
10	DTMF signaling to its customers, which is the equivalent of that offered
11	by the incumbent LECs to its customers.
12	d. Single-party service or its functional equivalent. DPi meets the
13	requirement of single-party service by providing a dedicated message path
14	for the length of all customer calls.

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- e. Access to emergency services. The ability to reach a public emergency service provider by dialing 911 is a requirement in any universal service offering. DPi currently provides its subscribers access to 911 emergency service in accord with this requirement, and consistent with FCC Regulations throughout the service area for which designation is sought. DPi also provides Enhanced 911 services including Phase I and Phase II E911 services where requested by local public safety authorities ready to receive the information and where the local exchange carrier supports such services.
- f. Access to operator services. Access to operator services is defined as any automatic or live assistance provided to a consumer to arrange for billing or completion, or both, of a telephone call. DPi currently provides access to operator services though a 1-800 calling service. Customers can also obtain 1+ service through a third party provider to access such services.
- g. Access to directory assistance. Much like operator services, DPi currently offers access to directory assistance services though a 1-800 calling service. Customers can also obtain 1+ service through a third party provider to access such services.
- h. Access to interexchange service. DPi meets the requirements of access to interexchange service by providing all of its customers with the ability to make and receive interexchange calls through 1+800 calling

services provided by third party LD carriers. Additionally, customers can

obtain 1+ services through a third party provider, and are able to reach

their IXC of choice by dialing the appropriate access code.

i. Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. As

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previously mentioned, toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. As previously mentioned, toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers is linked to participation in the Lifeline program, which DPi will participate in and offer upon designation as an ETC. DPi will use the appropriate toll limitation technology to provide this required service at no additional charge to Lifeline customers.

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2	Q:	DOES DPI OFFER THE ABOVE-REFERENCED SUPPORTED
3		SERVICES VIA ITS OWN FACILITIES OR A COMBINATION OF ITS
4		OWN FACILITIES AND RESALE OF ANOTHER CARRIER'S
5		SERVICES?
6	A:	Depending on the type of service the customer requests and the precise location of
7		the customer, dPi offers the supported services either through the purchase of
8		switched port/loop combinations (UNEs) or through resale. These facilities are
9		physical components of the telecommunications network that are used in the
10		transmission or routing of the services for which support is requested. Because
11		these facilities include unbundled network elements, the method by which dPi
12		provisions the supported services is consistent with the FCC's rules found at 47
13		CFR § 54.201(d)(1) through (i).

Τ.	Q.	WILL DITTROVIDE SUFFORTED UNIVERSAL SERVICES ONCE
2		DESIGNATED AS AN ETC?
3	A:	Yes. dPi will provide all supported universal services once designated as an ETC.
4	Q:	WILL DPI PARTICIPATE IN THE LIFELINE AND LINK-UP
5		PROGRAMS IF IT IS DESIGNATED AS AN ETC?
6	A:	Yes, as we stated in our Petition, upon designation as an ETC, dPi will participate
7		in, and offer, LifeLine and Link-Up programs to qualifying low-income
8		consumers and publicize the availability of Lifeline and Link-Up services in a
9		manner reasonably designed to reach those likely to qualify for those services, as
LO		required by 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.401-54.417; 54.405(b)& 54.411(d).
11	Q:	A THIRD REQUIREMENT FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ETC IS TO
12		ADVERTISE THE AVAILABILITY OF THE SUPPORTED SERVICES.
13		HOW DOES DPI INTEND TO ADVERTISE THE AVAILABILITY OF
14		THE SUPPORTED SERVICES?
15	A:	dPi advertises the availability of the supported services and the corresponding
16		charges in a manner that informs the general public within the designated service
17		area of both the services available and the corresponding charges. dPi advertises
18		its services through several different media of general distribution including (but
19		not limited to) marketing at targeted retail locations, including rent-to-own
20		centers, as well as advertisements via television, radio, newspapers and trade
21		magazines. A copy of a sample sales brochure is attached hereto as Exhibit C. A
22		copy of a sample newspaper advertisement is attached hereto as Exhibit D.

2	Q:	IS DPI ABLE TO SATISFY EACH OF THE ADDITIONAL
3		REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED IN THE FCC'S MARCH 17, 2005
4		ORDER?
5	A:	Yes. dPi will provide each of the supported services identified in 47 C.F.R.
6		§54.101 as follows:
7		a. dPi will commit to provide service throughout its proposed designated
8		service area to all customers making a reasonable request for service. dPi
9		certifies that it will (a) provide service on a timely basis to requesting customers
10		within the applicant's service area where the applicant's network already passes
11		the potential customer's premises; and (b) provide service within a reasonable
12		period of time, if the potential customer is within dPi's licensed service area but
13		outside its existing network coverage, if service can be provided at reasonable
14		cost by reselling services from another carrier's facilities to provide service.
15		b. Under FCC guidelines, an ETC Applicant must submit a five-year plan
16		that describes with specificity proposed improvements or upgrades to the
17		applicant's network on a wire center-by-wire center basis throughout its proposed
18		Designated Service Area. The only circumstance warranting deviation from this
19		requirement is where an applicant's requested ETC serving territory would qualify
20		it to receive no "high cost" USF support, but only "low income" USF support.
21		Because dPi seeks ETC designation solely for purposes of reimbursement
22		for provision of subsidized Lifeline and Link-Up services to eligible customers,
23		submission of a Five-Year Network Improvement Plan is not required at this time.

Direct Testimony of Brian Bollinger April 16, 2008

Since Lifeline support is designed to reduce the monthly cost of telecommunications services for eligible consumers, and is distributed on a percustomer basis and is directly reflected in the price that the eligible customer pays, it is assured that all support received by the carrier is used to provide Lifeline services to consumers, thus promoting Lifeline and the availability of telephone service to low income users, which is clearly in the public interest.

port/loop combination UNEs, leased from the ILECs, allows dPi to provide to its customers the same ability to remain functional in emergency situations as currently provided by the ILECs to their own customers (including access to a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, rerouting of traffic around damaged facilities, and the capability of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations). Further, by nature of the fact that these services are implicitly included in the rates that dPi pays to the ILECs, these capabilities are also available to dPi's customers. A copy of dPi's policy concerning operations during emergencies is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

d. dPi will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards. Under FCC guidelines, an ETC Applicant must demonstrate that it will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards. 47 CFR §54.202(a)(3); FCC ETC Order at Para 28. Applicant will satisfy all such standards. As part of its certification requirements for providing local exchange services, Applicant must abide by the service quality and consumer protection rules. In addition, Applicant commits to reporting information on consumer complaints per 1,000 lines on an annual basis consistent with the FCC's ETC Order. Applicant in general commits to satisfying all such applicable state and federal requirements related to consumer protection and service quality standards.

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e. dPi's service consists only of a pre-paid offering. dPi's offering includes a local usage component with unlimited local calling similar to the ILECs' basic local service offerings. Specific recurring and non-recurring price information for dPi's services is attached hereto as Exhibit F. The amount of credits that will be provided to eligible low participating in the lifeline and link-up program, is set forth in proposed tariff revisions, which are attached hereto as Exhibit G.

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2		f. dPi acknowledges that the FCC may require it to provide equal access to
3		long-distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications
4		carrier is providing equal access within the service area.
5		g. As relevant to the Commission's public interest inquiry, dPi's presence
6		will undeniably include a benefit of increased customer choice, as dPi's pre-paid
7		service offering is unique, and serves a specific sector of the public who might
8		well not otherwise have wire line telephone service.
9		h. dPi does not seek designation below the study area level of a rural
10		telephone company, and therefore, no "cream skimming" analysis is required.
11		Likewise, dPi does not seek designation as an ETC for any part of tribal lands.
12		Therefore, the public notice requirements established by the FCC for tribal lands
13		do not apply.
14	Q:	IN WHAT SERVICE AREAS IS DPI SEEKING DESIGNATION AS AN
15		ETC?
16	A:	Pursuant to Section 54.207 of the FCC's rules, a "service area" is a "geographic
17		area established by a state commission for the purpose of determining universal
18		service obligations and support mechanisms." 47 C.F.R. § 54.207(a). For service
19		areas served by non-rural ILECs such as BellSouth/AT&T, there are no
20		restrictions on how a Commission defines the "service area" for purposes of
21		designating a competitive ETC. dPi proposes a service area consisting of each of
22		the BellSouth wire centers in South Carolina which are set forth in Exhibit B
23		referenced above.

2	Q:	DOES DPI PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE
3		THROUGHOUT THE NON-RURAL ILEC SERVICE AREAS FOR
4		WHICH IT SEEKS ETC DESIGNATION?
5	A:	Yes.
6	Q:	BEFORE DESIGNATING DPI AS AN ETC, IS THE COMMISSION
7		REQUIRED TO FIND THAT THE DESIGNATION IS IN THE PUBLIC
8		INTEREST?
9	A:	Yes.
LO	Q:	HOW, AND IN WHAT TERMS, WILL DPI'S PRESENCE AS AN ETC IN
11		SOUTH CAROLINA AFFECT THE MARKET AS A WHOLE AND THE
12		PUBLIC INTEREST GENERALLY?
13	A:	A grant of dPi's application will serve the public interest and the market as a
14		whole by promoting additional deployment of dPi's unique pre-paid local service.
15		It is important to note that most of dPi's customers do not meet the traditional
16		"creditworthiness" test of ILECs and CLECs, and therefore, many are unable to
17		obtain wire line local exchange service. dPi's designation as an ETC will bring
18		consumers the benefits of its unique service to a specific segment of the market.
19		Furthermore, A central purpose of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was to
20		"promote competition and reduce regulation [thereby securing] lower prices
21		and higher quality services and encourage the rapid deployment of new
22		telecommunications technologies." Designation of dPi as an ETC would further

The Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-104, 110 Stat.

1		these goals. Granting ETC status to dPi would allow the Company to obtain
2		federal universal service support, which it will use to offer innovative
3		telecommunications services at competitive prices to non-rural consumers in the
4		Designated Service Area.
5	Q:	IF DPI'S PETITION IS GRANTED, WILL THERE BE ANY FINANCIAL
6		IMPACT ON THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND OR THE FEDERAL
7		UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND SURCHARGE THAT SOUTH CAROLINA
8		END USERS PAY?
9	A:	No.
LO	Q:	HAS DPI BEEN GRANTED ETC STATUS BY ANY STATE
L1		COMMISSIONS?
12	A:	Yes, dPi has been designated as ETC by the Alabama Public Service Commission,
13		the North Carolina Public Utilities Commission, and the Texas Public Utility
14		Commission. No state has denied any ETC petition filed by Applicant, nor have
15		any such petitions been withdrawn. Applicant has petitions for ETC status
16		pending in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and
17		Oklahoma.

1	Q:	DOES DPI HAVE THE FINANCIAL ABILITY TO CONTINUE TO
2		PROVIDE SERVICES IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA?
3	A:	Yes, DPI Teleconnect, LLC is a subsidiary of Rent-A-Center, Inc. ("RAC")
4		which is a publicly traded corporation on NASDAQ (Symbol RCII) with annual
5		revenues approaching \$3 billion. DPI is consolidated into RAC's published
6		financials which are a matter of public record. RAC issues letters of credit and/or
7		bonds on behalf of DPI as needed to comply with regulatory requirements.
8	Q:	PLEASE DESCRIBE DPI'S PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES TO
9		ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL RULES
10		GOVERNING LIFELINE AND LINK-UP PROGRAMS, SPECIFICALLY
11		THE RULES PERTAINING TO VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION
12		OF ELIGIBILITY.
13	A:	Please see a copy of dPi's internal control processes, which is attached hereto as
14		Exhibit H.
15	Q:	HAS DPI BEEN AUDITED BY USAC, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY,
16		PERTAINING TO LIFELINE AND LINK-UP?
17	A:	No.
18	Q:	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
19	A:	Yes.

Direct Testimony of Brian Bollinger April 16, 2008

1		LIST OF EXHIBITS
2		
3	A.	BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION
4	B.	LIST OF WIRE CENTERS
5	C.	SAMPLE SALES BROCHURE
6	D.	SAMPLE NEWPAPER ADVERTISEMENT
7	E.	POLICY CONCERNING OPERATIONS DURING EMERGENCIES
8	F.	PRICING INFORMATION
9	G.	LIFELINE AND LINK-UP TARIFF REVISIONS
10	Н.	INTERNAL CONTROL PROCESSES

EXHIBIT A

2 BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Brian A. Bolinger, Esq.

Experience

dPi Teleconnect, LLC & dPi Energy, LLC

May 2000 - Present

Dallas, Texas

Vice President of Operations and Legal Affairs (dPi Teleconnect and dPi Energy)

- A member of the company's executive staff that has managed the business from inception to nearly \$20,000,000 per year in revenue
- > Solely accountable for creation of dPi Energy from concept through launch
- Responsible for the profit and loss of dPi Energy
- Coordinate and manage both legal and human resource departments
- Communicate daily with all levels of management
- Negotiate new employee benefits
- Responsible for the hiring and turnover for both hourly and salaried employees
- Manage bi-annual employee performance reviews
- Manage quarterly "key performance indicator" reviews
- Research and implement competitive salary requirements
- > Oversee, write and edit company announcements
- Responsible for negotiation of agreements with vendors, partners, employees, etc.
- > Responsible for oversight of outside counsel in defending company in any and all legal proceedings
- Write, file and manage all state and federal regulatory documents
- Write, interpret, negotiate and manage all contracts
- Solicit, negotiate and manage company acquisitions

Vice President of Operations (dPi Teleconnect)

- A member of the company's executive staff
- > Instrumental in managing over 300% company growth in customers and 400% growth in revenue
- Solely responsible for the Legal, Human Resource, Customer Service, Provisioning and Quality Control Departments
- > Directed and mentored 4 direct reports with more than 150 people within responsible departments
- Reduced labor costs by more than \$150,000.00 per year
- Restructured the customer service department to accept more calls while reducing staff and maintaining desired average speed of answer
- Influential in reducing the order completion time by more than 30%
- Consistently exceed monthly and yearly labor and bonus goals
- Responsible for all contract interpretation, negotiation and management
- > Oversight and management of all hiring, terminations, wage calculations, reviews, benefits, etc.

Human Resource Director (dPi Teleconnect)

- A member of the company's executive staff
- Hired to create the Human Resource Department for dPi Teleconnect, LLC
- Authored and implemented all company policies, procedures and protocols
- Effectively managed labor growth of over 100% in a four month period
- > Directly responsible for oversight of company turnover that substantially exceeded industry standards
- > Authored and implemented company bonus plans and programs
- Researched and put into operation new company benefits
- Accountable for all in-house legal work
- > Managed all state and federal regulatory filings

1609 Pine Hills Lane, Corinth, TX 76210 214-870-1677 (Cell) / 940-271-1800 (Home) bbolinger@dpiteleconnect.com / bbolinger@dpienergy.com

Brian A. Bolinger, Esq.

Smock Fansler Corporation

May 1998 - April 2000

Indianapolis, Indiana

Corporate Counsel and Director of Human Resources

- Established an in-house legal department for a large multi-million dollar commercial construction company
- > Restructured the company's human resource department for efficiency and state and federal law requirements
- Managed the hiring of all new employees
- Negotiated and implemented new employee benefits
- > Created an employee handbook and revised the employee safety manual
- Oversight of the company's safety programs, procedures and training
- Investigated and defended OSHA inspections, allegations and violations
- Ensured compliance will all applicable laws and regulations
- Drafted and defended Equal Employment Opportunity reports and statistics
- > Implemented company wide drug testing
- > Implemented five collective bargaining agreements for all field employees
- Managed all legal activities both in-house and with outside counsel
- > Represented the company in pre-construction meetings with owners, subcontractors and union representatives
- Responsible for drafting, interpretation and negotiation of public and private construction contracts

CMG Worldwide, Inc.

August 1996 - May 1998

Indianapolis, Indiana

Legal Department

- Worked on all legal aspects of protecting the intellectual property, licensing, marketing and merchandising of over 200 clients including Marilyn Monroe, James Dean, Babe Ruth, Jackie Robinson and Vince Lombardi
- Negotiated agreements with companies to utilize CMG clients in advertising campaigns
- > Successfully prepared and filed copyright and trademark applications for numerous entities
- Protected clients from the unauthorized use of their intellectual property rights including their rights of publicity, association, sponsorship and endorsement
- Drafted affidavits, complaints and cease and desist letters

Education

Indiana University School of Law Midwestern State University DePauw University Indianapolis, Indiana Wichita Falls, Texas Greencastle, Indiana Doctor of Jurisprudence Master of Science Bachelor of Arts

Licenses, Memberships and Affiliations

- ➤ Indiana Law License Number 049425
- ➤ Board of Directors, Vascular Birthmarks Foundation
- > Treasurer, Vascular Birthmarks Foundation
- > Secretary to the Board, NALA-PCA
- > DePauw University North Texas Alumni Council
- > Beta Beta Chapter Home Association
- Member, Cross Timbers Community Church

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Thomas G. O'Roark 7549 Stonebrook Parkway, Ste. 2903 Frisco, TX 75034

tgoroark@hotmail.com Cell: 214-454-7204

Summary: BSBA, CPA, 4 years public accounting, 23 years industry, including Telecommunications, Consulting, Security, Legal and Transportation Excellent track record of successful achievement.

Education & Certifications

CPA Certification, Oklahoma 11/1980

Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, KS

Graduated 5/1977 w/BSBA GPA: 3.4 overall/3.6 in major

Experience

dPi Teleconnect, LLC

Dallas, TX

11/2004 - Present

Vice-President of Finance - \$18 million Telecom Company. Competitive Local Exchange Carrier with 25,000 prepaid subscribers, licensed in 48 states, with over 6,000 agent locations. Products included prepaid home phone service, prepaid internet, cell phones, cellular recharge and prepaid debit cards. Managed Finance, Accounting and Treasury functions. Improved Gross Margins by 5%. Managed full SOX process. Quaterbacked various acquisitions.

Deloitte & Touche

Dallas, TX

9/2004 - 11/2004

Auditor - Temporary assignment doing SOX documentation, testing, and annual audit of various client companies, include multi-national communications equipment manufacturer.

Covista Communications

Chattanooga, TN

7/2002-8/2004

Director of Line Cost - \$70+ million Telecom Company. Recruited, trained and directed 8 member team. Produced 9%+ reduction in annual cost of goods sold. Won over \$5+ million in annual cost recovery.

Vartec Telecom, Inc.

Dallas, TX

1/1999 - 5/2002

Director of Line Cost - \$1 billion+ Telecom Company. Directed 27 member team. Won \$66+ million in cost recovery. Produced 8.53% reduction in annual cost of goods sold.

O'Roark Consulting

Dallas, TX

10/1995 - 1/1999

President - Self-employed consulting business. Clients included Law firms, new business startups, & small business owners. Brokered sale of several businesses. Developed business plans, raised funding, etc.

Proxy Message Center

Dallas, TX

1/1988 - 10/1995

Chief Financial Officer –Turn around and sale of \$10+ million Telecom Company under venture capital ownership, operating in-bound call centers in New York, Florida, Texas and California. Point man on 33 successful acquisitions.

Network Security

Dallas, TX

1/1987 - 12/1987

Vice President of Finance/Chief Financial Officer - Led management team in LBO of wholly owned subsidiary of a nationwide installer of electronic security systems and alarm monitoring services.

Chemical Express

Dallas, TX

10/1985 - 12/1986

Vice President of Finance - Successful turn-around of closely held trucking company, hauling bulk cement, primarily intrastate Texas. Left to pursue LBO opportunity.

Eagle FB Trucking Company

Salt Lake City, UT

4/1985 - 10/1985

Acting Chief Financial Officer - Coordinated liquidation and pay off of \$5 million senior debt as a prerequisite to exercise of bargain purchase option. Completed acquisition in 6 months.

National Trucking Company of America, Inc. Tulsa, OK 5/1981 - 1/1985

Vice President of Finance – Successful turn-around of trucking company with 48 state common carrier authority. 200% revenue growth in 4 years. Managed financing from deficit net worth to profitability.

Arthur Anderson & Co. Tulsa, OK 6/1977 - 5/1981

Senior Auditor - Then "Big 8" public accounting fast tracker. Conducted independent annual audits of various companies in a variety of industries.

Affiliations

Vibrant Users Group - Former Board Member, Oklahoma Society of CPA's (Past member), AICPA (Past member), Delta Mu Delta Accounting Honor Society

Detailed resume', references and salary history available upon request.

2997 LBJ Freeway, Suite 225 Dallas, Texas, 75234 214-755-7502

Chief Executive Officer

An accomplished, multi-faceted Chief Executive with an unusual blend of Leadership, Sales and Operational experience spanning over 27 years. With a demonstrated ability to influence organizational growth, increase market share and identify/develop new revenue opportunities, I am uniquely positioned to provide leadership that will drive business success. A history of facilitating business development and the expertise to deal with the challenges of dynamic environments, I possess a record of significant contributions.

Strong communication skills, the ability to positively impact bottom-line performance while continually growing Revenue are key assets. A history of outstanding professional performance includes the following strengths:

Key Strengths:

- Communicating Effectively at all levels
- Motivating others and inspiring confidence
- Working with Executive Management
- · Creative Problem solving
- · Finding opportunities
- · Influencing others

Selected Accomplishments and Achievements:

- Started dPi Teleconnect, LLC in December 1998 and grew it from a new company to over \$36M in Revenue in less than 36 months. Developed and executed the Business Plan (PPM) to attract a venture capital firm to invest the seed money for a minority stake in the company.
- Solicited and negotiated a majority stake in dPi to a \$600M publicly traded company. (NYSE: RWY)
- Attracted and negotiated in excess of 8,000 exclusive payment distribution outlets. The
 majority of the distribution were either the top Regional brands or Nationally recognized
 brands. The majority of the National Brands are publicly traded.
- Negotiated and Implemented operating agreements with all the major and minor Incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) so that dPi could operate in 44 States.
- Incorporated new business product lines into dPi that added over \$700,000 in contribution margin dollars the first year. Contribution dollars will exceed \$2M in 2007.
- Initiated, developed and implemented a new product line that increased traffic flow in the Rent-to-Own Stores by 25% as well as developed a new profit base with profits in the first year of operation to exceed 3 million. Acquired over 60,000 customers within the first 3 years. Handled all vendor relationships as well as negotiating the contracts for distribution and ILEC rates.
- While the DVP of Remco America's, increased profits by 5 percentage points for Remco Americas by reducing our Cost structure and stream lining field-based operations. Realigned the organization to include processes to ensure execution of our primary proposition.
- Managed and motivated a team of 10 Multi-level Managers with 100 Store Managers between them to increase deliveries to our Customers by 6% within the first six months of taking over the position. Increased another 3% during the following 8 months, which exceeded company performance.

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- Developed and implemented an innovative business plan template currently used Companywide that has increased a declining market share. Created a unique package that minimized Accounts Receivable and reduced operating costs while maximizing Human Resource Opportunities.
- Served as the critical point person for the development of two key business opportunities.
 Worked closely with Marketing, Training and Vendors to identify and satisfy the needs of Thorn's customer base. Generated sales of over \$35 million in a 2-year period and established this new specialty market as a viable profit center.
- Consulted for 171 Franchise Stores on business Management and execution of the rental proposition, facilitating their consistent achievement in exceeding plan performance.

Professional Experience:

dPi Teleconnect, LLC Dallas, Texas

December 1998 to Present

President & CEO, Founder- Responsible for the overall components of the Company.
Primary responsibilities include Investor Relations, Board of Managers Meetings and
management of the Executive Staff. Responsible for an Operation that is in it's 7th year with
annualized Revenue projected in FY2007 to be \$20M to \$22M with a Net Income projection
between 8% and 10%.

Thorn Americas (d.b.a. Rent-a-Center, Remco, AdvantEDGE) Wichita, Kansas December 1987-Aug. 1998

- Division General Manager- AdvantEDGE Quality Cars- A division of Thorn Finance, AdvantEDGE Quality Cars is a start up company since May 1997. Responsibilities include full accountability of cars operations and execution to ensure profitability of 3 inter-dependent departments consisting of Finance, Reconditioning/Service and Sales. The Company was sold in July 1998.
- Vice President, Strategic Initiatives-Responsible to develop new streams of revenue by enhancing the traffic opportunities within Thorn's 1200 Rent-to-Own Stores as well as create synergy between Thorn Americas new business strategy including AdvantEDGE Quality Cars, Check Cashing and the Retail Operations. During this time, was Senior Operations Officer for AdvantEDGE Check Cashing.
- Division Vice President-Remco Americas- As the Senior officer position within Remco Americas the responsibilities included full control of all functional departments accountable for 157 Stores, nationwide. Rental Revenues represented over \$110M with and increase in profit percentage of 5% within year one.
- Regional Director, an officer level position, Assigned to take over an under performing Region consisting of 101 Stores over 11 States with \$78M in Sales and \$18.7 in profits. Accountable for developing and executing a business plan that will optimize opportunities

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with the 11 State Territory. Direct accountabilities included supervision of 10 area Managers, Marketing, Human Resources, Real Estate and operations.

From 1987 to October 1994 I held positions within Thorn Americas including Divisional Director of Operations, Director RAC 2000, Market Manager, Director of Operations, Zone Manager and various Store positions.

S & A Restaurant Corporation (Pillsbury) King of Prussia, PA

April, 1986 to Dec. 1987

Manager. Managed along with 3 Co-Managers highest volume Bennigan's Restaurant located in King of Prussia, Pa with annual sales of \$5M.

Richard's Restaurant Corporation

Oct., 1981 to April 1985

Greenville, Delaware

Executive Chef/General Manager. Accountable for operations of a full service, fine dining restaurant, with revenues of \$1.5M.

- Opened two restaurants within 3 years of first restaurant opening.
- Restaurant (Schoonover's) was selected as "best brunch" 3 years in a row.
- Restaurant (Bouli-Bouli) was selected as "best new Restaurant" in Wilmington.
- Taught for the International School of Cooking.
- Represented American Cancer Society as a "Celebrity Chef" for benefit dinners.

Education:

University of Delaware Newark, Delaware BA81, Sociology

1977-1981

Direct Testimony of Brian Bollinger April 16, 2008

1	EXHIBIT B
2	LIST OF WIRE CENTERS
3	

Company Switch BELLSOUTH BSE, INC. - SC CLMASCSNX0X BELLSOUTH BSE, INC. - SC CLMASCSA9MD BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLVRSCESRS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL BMBRSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL SPFDSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL JHTNSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **BAVLSCMARS1** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **EOVRSCMARS1** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCSA773 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **AIKNSCMAXMD** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL PRSRSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL NWBYSCMA27E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CMDNSCLGRS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL ORBGSCMA53E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **BRWLSCBERS1** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL ALDLSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **BATHSCMARS1** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL BTBGSCMA53E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL EDFDSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL AIKNSCMA64E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **NWELSCMARS1** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **GIVLSCMARS1** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL YORKSCMA68F BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL WHTMSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CMDNSCMA43F BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCPARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCSCRS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCDF78E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCSH77E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCAR75E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCSU78E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL DNMKSCESRS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL WCLMSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL LKWLSCRSRS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCCH78E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL BHISSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **CLMASCSA77E** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **HCGVSCMARS1** SHRNSCMARS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCBQRS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCSW79E CHAPSCCLRS1 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL NAGSSCMA27E CLMASCSCRS2 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL GSTANCSO85G BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCSN25E BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL CLMASCSN79F BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL RWLDNCMARS0 BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL **GBSNNCMARS0** BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL TMVLSCMARS1

BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL

MARNSCBNRS1 SCHLSCESRS1 DRTNSCMA39F CHTNSCBE5MD MARNSCMA42E BEVLSCMA47E MCCLSCMARS1 MLNSSCWP46E **BLNHSCMARS1** CHTNSCJN55E CLIOSCMARS1 FLBHSCMARS1 STGRSCMARS1 LATTSCLSRS1 LKVWSCMARS1 CHTNSCWA85E CHTNSCJM79E **DLLNSCMA77E** CHTNSCWA55E HTVLSCMA33E CHTNSCDP82E SBRKSCSKRS1 EDBHSCMARS1 SUVLSCMA87E ISPLSCISRS1 CHRWSCES53E CHTNSCLB55E MNPLSCES88F CHTNSCDT72E CHTNSCNO74F FLRNSCMA66F **GNVLSCWPRS1** ARSNSCTVRS1 ARSNSCAHRS1 **BETNSCMA33E** HNPHSCMARS1 **GNVLSCBE24E GNVLSCCR27E** CWPNSCMARS1 UNINSCMA42E PCLTSCMARS1 LYMNSCIP433 SPBGSCHW50E SPBGSCCV57E FNVLSCMARS1 SPBGSCWV57E **GNVLSCWE26E GNVLSCCH24E CENTSCWSRS1** PNTNSCMARS1 WMNSSCESRS1 JNVLSCMARS1

BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTHERN BELL TEL & TEL JONNSCESRS1 WLHLSCESRS1 SPBGSCBS57E TRRSSCMARS1 MRTTSCMARS1 **BLBGSCMARS1** LBRTSCMA84E PDMTSCESRS1 CLSNSCMA65E ESLYSCMA85E FNINSCES86F SXMLSCMARS1 PCKNSCES87E **GFNYSCMA48F GRVRNCMARS0** CLTNSCMA83E SALMSCMARS1 WMTNSCPW84F SPBGSCMA57E LYMNSCES43E ARSNSCMA22F TKNASCSTRS1 **GNVLSCDT23F BLRGSCMARS1** SENCSCMA88E **GNVLSCWR28F GRERSCMA87F**

Direct Testimony of Brian Bollinger April 16, 2008

1 EXHIBIT C

2 SAMPLE BROCHURE

Call **1-877-JOIN-DPI** (564-6374)

or see a Store Associate for more details.



Choose a package to fit your budget & your lifestyle.

- Call waiting
- Caller ID
- Unlimited long distance
- & More!

SSAVE \$40 up to

when you sign up today!
*Savings will vary by service address. See Slore Associate
for more delails.

No Depositi No LBL Requiredi No Greeki Ghadisi

Get Signed Up
Today!

Rent-A-Center

1-800-877-7758

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1 EXHIBIT D

2 SAMPLE NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT



TRACEGINE

dPi Wireless 50 MONTHLY

WEEKLY dPi Wireless 25

dPi Wireless 300

dPi Wireless 600

dPi Wireless 200 dPI Wireless 100

> Windstream (Alitel) Windstream (Alitel)

\$11.24/wk / \$44.99/mo

\$13.74/wk / \$54.99/mo

\$7.49/wk / \$29.99/mo \$11.74/wk / \$46.99/mo

Embarg (Sprint) Century-Tel

Verizon

\$9.99/wk \$7.49/v/k

\$29,99/mo \$39.99/mo

\$11.74/wk / \$46,99/mo

\$11.74/wk / \$46.99/mo

\$14.24/wk

556.99/mo

AT&T (Bell South) \$4.99/wk / \$19.99/ma

uthorized Reseller

Life Line

Unlimited Local Calling Unlimited Local Calling with Qualifications Basic

Unlimited Local Calling Call Waiting Deluxe Caller ID Deluxe Advantage

\$7.49iwk / \$29.99imo \$7.49/wk / \$29.99/mo \$9.24/wk / \$36.99/mo \$11.74/wk / \$46.99/mo

Unlimited Local Calling
Unlimited Long Distance
Call Waiting Deluxe
Caller ID Deluxe
3-Way Calling
Call Return & Busy Signal

Home Phone Call Features

Call Relum & Busy Redial

\$14.24/wk / \$56.99/mo \$14.24/wk / \$56.99/mo \$14,24/wk / \$56.99/mo \$9.24/wk / \$39.99/mo \$16.99/wk Premier
Unlimited Local Calling
Call Waiting Deluxe
Caller ID Deluxe / \$67.99/mo

1 EXHIBIT E

2 POLICY CONCERNING OPERATIONS DURING EMERGENCIES



METHOD AND PROCEDURE

Date:

April 1, 2008

To:

dPi Teleconnect Customer Service Employees

From:

Jerry Brennan

Re:

Customer Service Emergency Operations

This procedure identifies what course of action to follow in the event of an emergency situation that effects dPi Teleconnect customers.

During dPi Teleconnect customer service normal operating hours (Monday through Friday 8am to 7pm CST, Saturday 8am to 3pm CST) a dPi customer can call toll free 1-877-564-6374 to talk to a customer service representative.

Outside dPi Teleconnect customer service normal operating hours a dPi customer can call toll free 1-877-564-6374 to leave a message on the dPi Teleconnect IVR. The customer will receive a return call from a dPi Teleconnect customer service representative the following business day during normal operating hours.

Customer service representative will then follow the normal dPi Teleconnect problem correction and escalation procedures.

In the event of an IVR outage the dPi toll free number will be re-routed to a working dPi number following the 'How To: Reroute inbound calls to IVR in the event of an outage' procedure. Dpi Teleconnect maintains multiple circuits that support the toll free 1-877-564-6374 number reducing the likelihood of a customer not being able to reach dPi Teleconnect in an emergency.

dPi Teleconnect also maintains an outbound dialing capability that will be loaded with an emergency message. The dialer is set to call the numbers of dPi Teleconnect customers and can be set to continue to dial until the connection is completed.

1				EXHIBIT F		
2		PRICING INFORMATION				
3		dPi South Carolina Tariff Pricing as of 3-13-08				
4 5	3.1	.1 Local Exchange Service (Cont'd)				
6						
7 8		3.1.1.C	Loca	l Line Rates and Charges		
9			A Lo	cal Line Customer will be charged applicat	ole Non-	
10		Recurring Charges and monthly Recurring Charges as				
11				fied below.	,	
12			•			
13			1.	One-Time Activation Fee		
14						
15				One-Time Activation/Installation Fee	\$ 40.00	
16				Suspension Restoral Fee	\$ 20.00	
17						
18			2.	Recurring Charges		
19				Legal Line Monthly Decrymine	\$52.50	
20				Local Line - Monthly Recurring Directory Assistance	\$53.50 \$.75**	
21 22				Directory Assistance	\$.73	
23				** Per directory assistance call		
24				Tot directory assistance can		
25			3.	Optional Features		
26						
27				One-Time Activation Fee		
28				\$5.00**		
29				One-Time Activation Fee		
30				\$20.00*		
31						
32				**If service is installed at time of local	line initial	
33				installation.	141.1	
34				*If service is installed after local line is	nitiai	
35				installation.		
36 37				M	onthly	
38				171	Offiffy	
38 39				Call Waiting	\$ 7.00	
40				Call Forwarding	\$ 4.99	
41				Call Return	\$ 7.00	
42				Three-Way Calling	\$ 7.00	
43				Caller ID Name & Number	\$11.00	
44				Unlisted Number	\$ 7.00	

Direct Testimony of Brian Bollinger April 16, 2008

1	EXHIBIT G
2	PROPOSED LIFELINE AND LINK-UP TARIFF REVISIONS
3	SEE ATTACHED

(N)

3.7 <u>Lifeline Program</u>

A. General

- (i) The Lifeline program is designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to monthly recurring local service for qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket No. 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket No. 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the South Carolina Public Service Commission and are as set forth in this tariff.
- (ii) Lifeline is supported by the federal universal service support mechanism.
- (iii) Federal baseline support of eight dollars and twenty-five cents (\$8.25) is available for each Lifeline service and is passed through to the subscriber. An additional three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) credit is provided by the Company. Supplemental federal support of one dollar and seventy-five cents (\$1.75), matching one half of the Company contribution, will also be passed along to the Lifeline subscriber. The total Lifeline credit available to an eligible customer in South Carolina is thirteen dollars and fifty cents (\$13.50). The amount of credit will not exceed the charge for local service, which includes the access line, the Subscriber Line Charge and local usage.

B. Regulations

- (i) General
 - (a) Customers eligible under the Lifeline program are also eligible for connection assistance under the Link-Up program.
 - (b) One low income credit is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only. The named subscriber must be a current recipient of any of the low income assistance programs identified in Section B(ii)(a) following.
 - (c) A Lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residential customers. Since the Lifeline credit is applicable to the primary residential connection only, it may not be applied to multiple lines in a package for local service.
 - (d) Toll blocking, if elected, will be provided at no charge to the Lifeline subscriber.
 - (e) No deposit will be required of a Lifeline customer who subscribes to toll blocking. If a Lifeline customer removes toll blocking prior to establishing an acceptable credit history, a deposit may be required. When applicable, advance payments will not exceed the connection and local service charges for one month.
 - (f) Neither the Federal Universal Service Charge nor the South Carolina Intrastate Universal Service Surcharge will be billed to Lifeline customers.

Effective:___

(N)

3.7 <u>Lifeline Program (Cont'd.)</u>

- B Regulations (Cont'd.)
 - (i) General (Cont'd.)
 - (g) A Lifeline subscriber's local service will not be disconnected for non-payment of regulated toll charges. Local service may be denied for non-payment of local calls in accordance with Section 2. Access to toll service may be denied for non-payment of regulated tolls. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection of local service will not be denied if the service was previously denied for non-payment of toll charges.
 - (h) At no time shall a customer's Lifeline rate go below zero.

(ii) Eligibility

- (a) To be eligible for a Lifeline credit, a customer must be a current recipient of any one of the following low income assistance programs.
 - 1. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TAW), previously known as AFDC.
 - 2. Food Stamps
 - 3. Medicaid
- (b) All applications for service are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

(iii) Certification

- (a) Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs should be provided to the Company within 30 days of application for service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the Company. When eligibility documentation is provided, the Lifeline credit will be provided on a going forward basis.
- (b) The Company reserves the right to periodically audit its records, working in conjunction with the appropriate state agencies, for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility. Information obtained during such audit will be treated as confidential information to the extent required under State and Federal laws. The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Lifeline plan.
- (c) When a customer is determined to be ineligible as a result of an audit, the Company will contact the customer. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation within 60 calendar days, the Lifeline credit will be discontinued.

Issued: ____

Effective:

3.7 <u>Lifeline Program (Cont'd.)</u>

B. Regulations (Cont'd.)

(iv) General

- (a) Lifeline is provided as a monthly credit on the eligible residential subscriber's access line bill for local service.
- (b) Service Charges in Section 4 are applicable for installing or changing Lifeline service.
- (c) Link-Up connection assistance in Section 4 may be available for installing or relocating Lifeline service.
- (d) The Service Change Charge in Section 4 is not applicable when existing service is converted intact to Lifeline.
- (v) The total Lifeline credit consists of one federal credit plus one (1) Company credit
 - (a) Federal credit

Monthly Credit

- 1. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families \$10.00
- 2. Food Stamps \$10.00
- 3. Medicaid \$10.00
- (b) Company credit
 - 1. All programs, one per Lifeline service \$ 3.50

3.8 Link-Up South Carolina

A. General

- (i) Link-Up is a program designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to the non-recurring installation and service charges to qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the South Carolina Public Service Commission and are as set forth in this tariff.
- (ii) Link-Up is supported by the federal universal service support mechanism.
- (iii) A federal credit amount of fifty percent (50%) of the non-recurring charges for connection of service, up to a maximum of thirty dollars (\$30.00), is available to be passed through to the subscriber.

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Issued:	

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3.8 <u>Link-Up South Carolina (Cont'd.)</u>

B. Regulations

- (i) General
 - (a) Customers eligible under Link-Up are also eligible for monthly recurring assistance under the Lifeline program.
 - (b) Link-Up connection assistance is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only.
 - (c) The Link-Up credit is available each time the customer installs or relocates the primary residential service.
 - (d) To receive the credit, proof of eligibility must be provided within 30 days after installation of service.
 - (e) The total tariffed charges for connecting service, including service and other installation charges, are considered in the credit calculation.

(ii) Eligibility

- (a) To be eligible for a Link-Up credit, the named subscriber must be a current recipient of any of the following low income assistance programs:
 - 1. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), previously known as AFDC
 - 2. Food Stamps
 - 3. Medicaid
- (b) All applications for service are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

(iii) Certification

- (a) Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs should be provided to the Company within 30 days of application for service. The Link-Up credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the Company.
- (b) The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Link-Up plan.

C. Rates and Charges

The federal credit available for a Link-Up connection is thirty dollars (\$30.00) maximum or fifty percent (50%) of the installation and service charges from this Tariff, whichever is less.

David Dorwart, President & CEO DPI-Teleconnect, L.L.C. 2997-LBJ Freeway, Suite 225 Dallas, Texas 75234

Effective:

1 EXHIBIT H

2 INTERNAL CONTROL PROCESSES